

**REMARKS**

The above-referenced application is amended to correct a minor informality found in *claim* 8. The application is further amended to reference the corresponding Japanese application. Entry is in order.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

**LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP**

Benjamin J. Hauptman  
Registration No. 29,310

*Customer Number:* 22429  
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1111 BJH/klb  
Facsimile: (703) 518-5499  
**Date:** December 17, 2003